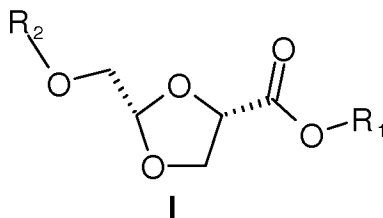


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A process for producing a compound of formula I:



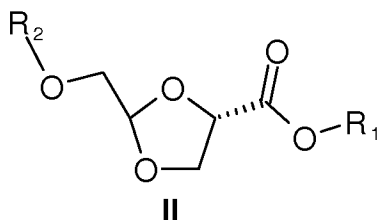
wherein

R₁ is C₁₋₁₂ alkyl, C₂₋₁₂ alkenyl, C₂₋₁₂ alkynyl, C₆₋₁₂ aryl, C₃₋₁₀ heterocycle, C₆₋₁₂ aralkyl or C₃₋₁₀ heteroaralkyl, and

R₂ is a hydroxyl protecting group;

said process comprising ~~the steps of:~~

- a) ~~subjecting a compound~~ subjecting a compound of formula II:



to an enzymatic diastereomeric resolution in the presence of a suitable amount of ~~enzyme chosen from Pig Liver Esterase~~ enzyme or Porcine Pancreatic Lipase enzyme;

- b) recovering said compound of formula I

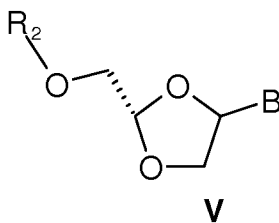
wherein;

~~R₁ is chosen from C₁₋₁₂ alkyl, C₂₋₁₂ alkenyl, C₂₋₁₂ alkynyl, C₆₋₁₂ aryl, C₃₋₁₀ heterocycle, C₆₋₁₂ aralkyl or C₃₋₁₀ heteroaralkyl; and~~

~~R₂ is a hydroxyl protecting group.~~

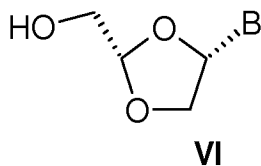
SHIRE-518

2. (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is C_{1-12} alkyl.
3. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1 wherein R_2 is ~~chosen~~
from: $CO-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $CO-C_{6-12}$ aryl, $CO-C_{1-6}$ alkoxy, $CO-C_{6-12}$ aryloxy, or $CO-C_{6-12}$ arylalkyl.
4. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, wherein R_2 is $CO-C_{6-12}$ aryl.
5. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, wherein the enzyme is Pig Liver Esterase.
6. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, wherein the enzyme is Porcine Pancreatic Lipase.
7. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of:~~
 - a) replacing the functional group at position C4 of the compound of formula I to produce a compound of formula V:



wherein B is purine or pyrimidine base or an analogue thereof;

- b) removing the group R_2 of said compound of formula V;
- c) recovering a compound of formula VI:



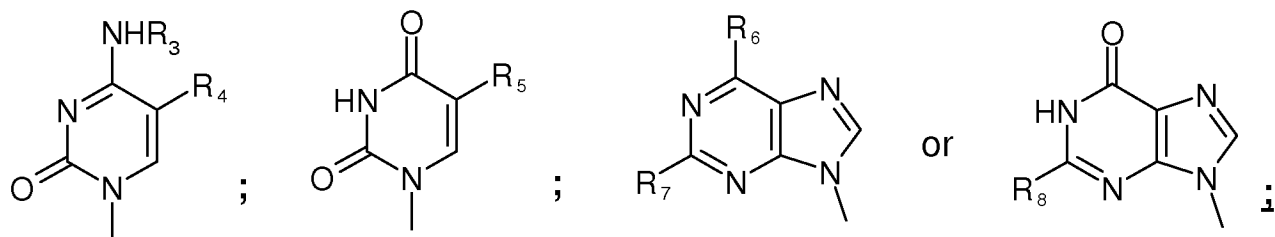
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

~~wherein;~~

~~B is purine or pyrimidine base or an analogue thereof.~~

8. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 7, wherein

B is ~~chosen from:~~



~~wherein;~~

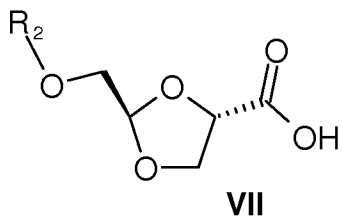
R₃ is ~~chosen from~~ H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ acyl, or and CO-R₉; ~~wherein~~

R₉ is H or C₁₋₆ alkyl;

R₄ and R₅ are each independently ~~chosen from~~ H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, bromide, chloride, fluoride, iodide or CF₃; and

R₆, R₇ and R₈ are each independently ~~chosen from~~ H, bromide, chloride, fluoride, iodide, amino, hydroxyl, or C₃₋₆ cycloalkylamino.

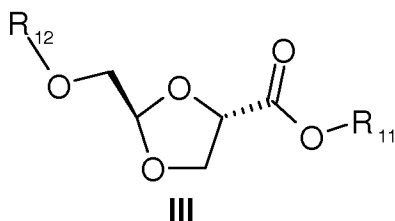
9. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, further comprising the step of recovering a compound of formula VII:



10. (Original): A process according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is C_{1-12} alkyl and R_2 is $CO-C_{6-12}$ aryl.

11. (Original): A process according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is methyl and R_2 is benzoyl.

12. (Currently Amended): A process for producing a compound of formula III:

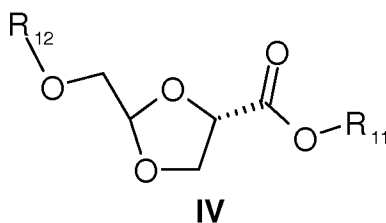


wherein

R_{11} is C_{1-12} alkyl, C_{2-12} alkenyl, C_{2-12} alkynyl, C_{6-12} aryl, C_{3-10} heterocycle, C_{6-12} aralkyl or C_{3-10} heteroaralkyl; and R_{12} is a hydroxyl protecting group,

said process comprising ~~the steps of~~:

a) subjecting a compound ~~compounds~~ of formula IV:



to an enzymatic diastereomeric resolution in the presence of a suitable amount of enzyme,
wherein said enzyme is chosen from ~~chosen from~~ Candida Antarctica "A" lipase, Candida Antarctica "B" lipase, Candida Lypolitica Lipase, or Rhizomucor Miehei Lipase; and

b) recovering said compound of formula III;

~~wherein; R_{11} is chosen from $C_{sub.1-12}$ alkyl, $C_{sub.2-12}$ alkenyl, $C_{sub.2-12}$ alkynyl,~~

SHIRE-518

~~C.sub.6-12 aryl, C.sub.3-10 heterocycle, C.sub.6-12 aralkyl or C.sub.3-10 heteroaralkyl; and R₁₂ is a hydroxyl protecting group.~~

13. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein R₁₁ is C₁₋₁₂ alkyl.

14. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 12, wherein R₁₂ is ~~chosen from~~ CO-C₁₋₆ alkyl, CO-C₆₋₁₂ aryl, CO-C₁₋₆ alkoxy, CO-C₆₋₁₂ aryloxy, or CO-C₆₋₁₂ arylalkyl.

15. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein R₁₂ is CO-C₆₋₁₂ aryl.

16. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein the enzyme is Candida Antarctica "A" lipase.

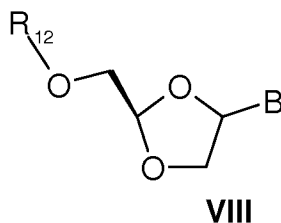
17. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein the enzyme is Candida Antarctica "B" lipase.

18. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein the enzyme is Candida Lypolitica Lipase.

19. (Original): The process according to claim 12, wherein the enzyme is Rhizomucor Miehei Lipase.

20. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 12, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

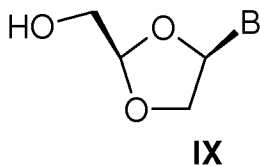
a) replacing the functional group at position C4 of the compound of formula III to produce a compound of formula VIII:



wherein B is purine or pyrimidine base or an analogue thereof;

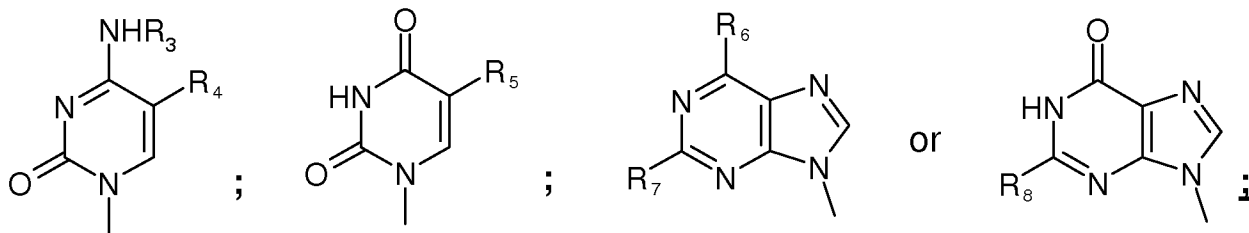
b) removing the group R₁₂ of said compound of formula VIII;

c) recovering a compound of formula IX:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; ~~wherein; B is purine or pyrimidine base or an analogue thereof.~~

21. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 20, wherein
B is ~~chosen from:~~



~~wherein;~~

R₃ is ~~chosen from~~ H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ acyl and CO-R₉; ~~wherein~~

R₉ is H or C₁₋₆ alkyl;

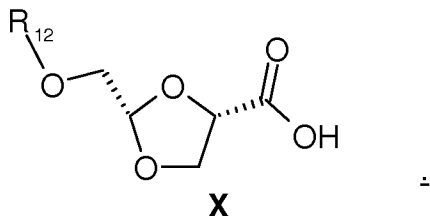
R₄ and R₅ are each independently ~~chosen from~~ H, C₁₋₆ alkyl, bromide, chloride, fluoride, iodide or CF₃; and

R₆, R₇ and R₈ are each independently ~~chosen from~~ H, bromide, chloride, fluoride, iodide, amino,

SHIRE-518

hydroxyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkylamino.

22. (Currently Amended): The process according to claim ~~12~~²²⁶, further comprising ~~the step of converting said compound of formula III to a compound of formula IV and recovering~~
~~asaid~~ compound of formula X:



23. (Original): A process according to claim 12, wherein R₁₁ is C₁₋₁₂ alkyl and R₁₂ is CO-C₆₋₁₂ aryl.

24. (Original): A process according to claim 12, wherein R₁₁ is methyl and R₁₂ is benzoyl.